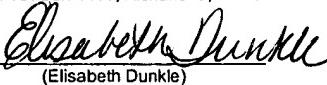


I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service as Express Mail, Airbill No. EV517915369US, in an envelope addressed to: MS RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date shown below.

Dated: December 9, 2004      Signature:   
(Elisabeth Dunkle)

Docket No.: 55474(70968)  
(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:  
Masuhiko Shimizu

Application No.: 09/719,316

Confirmation No.: 7005

Filed: December 11, 2000

Art Unit: 1771

For: COLLAGEN MATERIAL AND ITS  
PRODUCTION PROCESS

Examiner: J. A. Boyd

### REQUEST FOR EXTENSION OF TIME

MS RCE  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

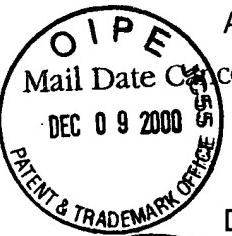
Dear Sir:

Applicant hereby petitions for a three month extension of time to and including December 17, 2004 to respond to the Office Action mailed June 17, 2004.

In the event that a further petition for an extension of time is required to be submitted at this time, applicant hereby petitions under 37 CFR 1.136(a) for an extension of time for as many months as are required to ensure that the above-identified application does not become abandoned.

Please charge our Deposit Account No. 04-1105 in the amount of \$510.00 covering the fees set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(a)(3). The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our Deposit Account No. 04-1105, under Order No. 55474(70968). A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

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12/14/2004 ANAB11 00000024 041105  
02 FC:2253 510.00 DA



Dated: December 9, 2004



Respectfully submitted,

By   
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